

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 492

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the achievements of the Brighton High School FFA chapter and its ceremonies team.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those organizations whose mission is to promote agricultural education and development in this State; and

WHEREAS, the Brighton High School (BHS) chapter of the FFA is one such estimable organization. The BHS FFA was organized with the goal to promote leadership, personal growth, and career success among high school agriculture students, and it continues to play an important role in ensuring the growth and prosperity of agriculture in Tennessee and the nation by expertly molding our future leaders; and

WHEREAS, the ceremonies team of this exemplary chapter recently made strides toward this goal, winning the State FFA Ceremonies Career Development Events (CDE) in March of 2015 and proudly representing Tennessee in the National Novice Parliamentary Procedures Competitive Event, which was held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, where they finished in the top twenty-five in October of 2015; and

WHEREAS, the members of the BHS FFA ceremonies team are Kylie Hunter, Madison Johnson, MarySelle Lea, Ashton Quarles, Kelley Ann Rice, Emily Schneider, and Taylor Scott; and

WHEREAS, the National Chapter Award program, whose ratings are conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education, recognizes FFA chapters that successfully complete activities that encourage their members to develop leadership and teamwork skills and to serve the community; and

WHEREAS, the BHS FFA consistently places among the top six chapters in West Tennessee every year and has received recognition as a National Star Chapter since 2006 and a National Models of Excellence Chapter in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the BHS FFA has competed at the state level in various FFA contests, including: Agricultural Sales, Agricultural Communication, Agricultural Marketing, Farm Business Management, Prepared Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Creed, Job Interview, Horse Judging, and Livestock Judging. This chapter has had a state winner in Job Interview, Agricultural Sales, Agricultural Marketing, Creed, and Prepared Speaking; and

WHEREAS, in order to qualify for a state or national award, an FFA chapter's activities must meet required quality standards in the areas of student development, chapter development, and community development; and

WHEREAS, the BHS FFA has exceeded these standards time and again through activities such as working with Farm Show Feeds to package over 100,000 meals for the impoverished, establishing and managing a freshmen orientation camp at BHS, and serving as a central collection location for the Tabs for Tripp project, which benefits St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. The chapter also hosted a regional Farm Bureau Forum and regularly hosts two agriculture awareness youth summer camps and an annual community-based agriculture awareness field trip; and

WHEREAS, students who participate in FFA leadership activities are eligible to receive awards, prize money, and college scholarships; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of our students and agricultural innovators, and, thanks to the efforts of organizations like the BHS FFA, Tennessee will continue to lead the world agriculturally for generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize the laudable achievements of the Brighton

High School FFA chapter and its ceremonies team and extend to their members our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.